UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/RES/53/3
9 November 1998

Fifty-third session
Agenda item 113

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/53/485)*]

53/3. Analysis of savings resulting from the improved overall cost-effectiveness achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery and the reform of the secretariat, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 52/220 of 22 December 1997, and proposals pursuant to Assembly decision 52/462 of 31 March 1998

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations and subsequent relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolutions 51/167 of 16 December 1996 and 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and its decision 52/462 of 31 March 1998,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the analysis of savings resulting from the improved overall cost-effectiveness achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery and the reform of the secretariat,[1]

[1] A/52/898 and Corr.1.

Having considered also the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in particular, in priority areas,

1. *Endorses* the proposals of the Secretary-General, contained in his report,[1] on the understanding that the amount to be utilized by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development should not exceed 5,526,600 United States dollars;

2. *Agrees* to the use of the amount of 1,088,000 dollars for the expenses of experts attending, in their personal capacity, expert meetings convened by the commissions of the Trade and Development Board in accordance with paragraph 114 of the document entitled "A Partnership for Growth and Development",[3] on the understanding that:

(*a*) It would only involve a one-time expenditure within the framework of the biennium 1998–1999, made possible because of extra resources that have been allocated as a result of underspending;

(*b*) The financing of the expenses of the experts should not set a precedent regarding the financing from the regular budget of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of expenses of experts attending, in their personal capacity, expert meetings convened by the commissions of the Board, in accordance with paragraph 114 of the document entitled "A Partnership for Growth and Development";

(*c*) Special consideration would be given to the needs of developing countries, in particular, the least developed countries;

3. *Invites* the Trade and Development Board to take a final decision, at its forty-fifth session from 12 to 23 October 1998, on the question of the selection, nomination and appointment of experts to participate in the expert meetings of its commissions, so as to enable the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to carry out the activities foreseen without further delay;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session a report on the implementation by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development of the activities financed from the unspent balance referred to in paragraph 1 above, and on how the accomplishments had contributed to strengthening the capacity of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in particular, in priority areas;

5. *Considers* that significant savings have been achieved by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as a direct result of decisions of the ninth session of the Conference, including the restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery and the reform of the secretariat;

---

[2] A/53/7/Add.2. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 7*.

[3] See A/51/308.

6. *Regrets* the lack of clear information concerning the savings achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery and the reform of the secretariat, and takes note, in this context, of the indication in paragraph 8 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2] that an amount of 2 million dollars, which is part of the above-mentioned savings, could be traceable to the reduction in the conference-servicing requirements of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development undertaken as a result of the ninth session, and agrees with the Advisory Committee that this information should have been reflected in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session, comprehensive information on the savings, including the amount of 2 million dollars referred to in paragraph 6 above, resulting from the improved overall cost-effectiveness achieved pursuant to the ninth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, including the restructuring of the intergovernmental machinery and the reform of the secretariat, as requested in its resolutions 51/167 and 52/220;

8. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question during the main part of its fifty-fourth session.

36th plenary meeting
12 October 1998